

Federal Council BULLETIN



Governor Dewey and Bishop Welch Christen Friendship Cargo (See Page 5)

PREPARING FOR THE WORLD COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

THE year 1948 may become one of the major dates in Christian history. In the meeting of the first Assembly of the World Council of Churches the non-Roman forces of Christendom will signalize in visible organization a unity of spirit that has come as a gift of God.

When the Assembly of the official delegates of more than 130 churches is called to order in Amsterdam, the Council will begin its constitutional existence. The fellowship which binds the churches together has been gaining cohesiveness and strength during recent decades through the various ecumenical organizations. The deepening of understanding since the Oxford, Edinburgh and Madras conferences, despite the cleavages and natural animosities of war, has been a testimony to the power of the Holy Spirit. Herein lies the true significance of the historic occasion.

Spiritual preparation of all our people becomes, therefore, of the utmost importance. The *Call to the Churches*, printed on page 6 of this issue of the BULLETIN, is a call to prayer. Human wisdom will not be sufficient to make the Amsterdam Assembly a success. Man's best contriving cannot establish a sound World Council of Churches. God alone can achieve what is so desperately required.

Another feature of our preparation should be a careful education with regard to the background and the nature of the World Council. There should also be widespread discussion of the problems that will be considered at Amsterdam. (Materials for study are available from the American Committee for the World Council of Churches, 297 Fourth Ave., New York.)

With the creation of the World Council, every member of every constituent church should realize that he is part of a great fellowship which stands united in Christ before the world's need. The individual should feel lifted out of his frustrating isolation and given a sense of participation in a movement which is able to stand before the challenge of other world forces.



A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF ROBERT ELLIOTT SPEER

FATHER of lights, who kindlest holy souls to shine in their generation, we bless Thy name for the glorious company of apostles who have led Thy Church and by their message, life and labor extended the reign of Christ in the earth.

More especially we praise Thee for the gift to the Church of our time of this Thy servant whose stalwart faith and abounding toil we have gratefully remembered together before Thee. We thank Thee for his vigor of body and force of mind, the energy of will and the ardor of devotion with which Thou didst endow him; for his charm which drew men to him, for his grace of thought and speech with which he drew them to his Master. We bless Thee for thousands of young people in schools, colleges and conferences to whom year after year he made life with Christ winsome; for hundreds whom he enlisted in the work of Thy Church, and for scores of missionaries in many lands who were enriched and fortified by his letters; for a wider circle to whom he ministered through his books, facing them with Christ and opening to them the secret of fellowship with Him; for two generations of church people who by the glowing influence of his life have been fired to more fervent loyalty to Christ and more zealous endeavor to bring a whole world in its every realm under His sway.

We call to mind his lifelong study of the Scripture, his illumination of its pages from books he was ever reading, and the spiritual riches he brought from Thy Word to build up the faith and life of Thy ministers and people. We adore Thee for his vision of the oneness of Thy Church, Christ's Body in the earth, and his eagerness to do away with barriers which hinder concord in Christ and the full sharing of His unsearchable riches. We offer Thee in thanksgiving the ties of friendship by which we in this company and many more around the world were bound to him and through him joined more firmly to his passionately adored Lord. We acknowledge Thy goodness to him in the reverent affection of multitudes and the honor in which he is held in all the churches.

Thou gavest him length of days and robust strength almost to the end, and he filled them with full measure of service. Now we rejoice that, set free for the larger offices of Thy heavenly kingdom, he has entered into the joy of the Lord, whom having not yet seen, he so dearly loved.

Raise up, we humbly pray Thee, men of like spiritual stature and flaming heart to lead Thy Church in the next generation. Let his memory abide to hallow and uplift to Thy presence us and all who knew and loved him, to render Heaven where he dwells with Thee more near, and to hold us inseparably to the Saviour in whom were the springs of his life and whom he now sees face to face. Amen.

HENRY SLOANE COFFIN

FEDERAL COUNCIL BULLETIN

A Smalltown Council Reports



Youth Choir for Mifflinburg's Five Churches

By PROF. THOMAS M. MUSSER
Second Vice-President,
Mifflinburg Council of Churches

(Reprinted from the *Pennsylvania Christian News*.)

FOR a number of years religious leaders in the community of Mifflinburg, Pa., a town of about 2,000 people, felt the need for a united Christian organization. One year ago, with the encouragement of officers of the Union County Sabbath School Association, the Mifflinburg Council of Churches was organized. It has been functioning successfully and has accomplished a remarkable work in this short time.

Aims of the Council of Churches, as presented in the preamble to the Constitution, are: to put the Christian religion at the very heart of our community life; to strengthen the agencies now operating to secure the highest spiritual, educational and humanitarian values; to coordinate the activities of the churches in their community-wide enterprises, and to develop a citizenry alive to the issues that confront American life and dedicated to the purpose of the realization of the Kingdom of God in our local community, as well as in the world community.

To assist in the achieving of these aims, the Council has been organized with the following departments for the purposes indicated:

Law and Order—To study proposed legislation and to organize church members in appropriate action.

Social Services—To include responsibility for leadership in discovering the social needs of the community and to bring about constructive changes in social conditions.

National and International Affairs—To consider national and international policies in which the Christian Churches are interested.

Christian Education—To promote and supervise all community religious educational enterprises.

Church Drama and Pageantry—To bring the churches together in dramatic activities in order to celebrate, and to develop an appreciation of, events of great religious significance.

Boys and Girls Work—To develop the moral and religious enterprises of youth.

All of the departments have been active and have accomplished much in their various activities. Most outstanding has been the work of the Youth Council. Composed of two youth members from each of the five churches of the town, the Youth Council has sponsored four "praise" services for the young people. Each service, planned and executed entirely by youth, has been successful and their value has increased with the enthusiasm of youth for the project.

Two of the youth services were devoted to a variety of religious music and a third musical program presented the Lenten cantata, "The Glory of the Cross." The other program was held on Thanksgiving, when Robert Shoemaker, a sophomore in high school, gave a very challenging talk.

Values which can never be measured

in human standards have been accomplished by our Council of Churches in its brief history. With God's help, we look forward to the fulfilling of His purposes more fully in Mifflinburg through the united efforts of Christian Churches.

FRIENDSHIP BOAT IS DEDICATED BY BISHOP

In a brief ceremony at a North River pier in New York, Methodist Bishop Herbert Welch dedicated the cargo of the *S. S. Hoosier State*, fourth "friendship boat" to sail for Europe with food collected throughout the U. S. by the Friendship Train.

Bishop Welch, chairman of the Methodist Committee on Overseas Relief and Vice President of Church World Service, represented Protestantism in the ceremony. He declared that peace "must be based not on military or economic power, not on treaties or assemblies, useful as all these may be, but on good will between peoples."

He described the *Hoosier State*, which was bound for Italy, as a messenger of good will. "Back to the land from which Columbus came to discover us," he said, "we send our greetings, our honest, friendly wishes and our help in the great struggle for freedom, for justice and for unity."

Bishop Welch participated in the dedication ceremonies with Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York. Mrs. Alberto Tarchiani, wife of the Italian ambassador to the United States, (shown between Governor Dewey and Bishop Welch in the cover picture) broke a bottle of water from Lake Success on the ship's bridge.

International Council To Meet in February

More than 1200 religious educators from all parts of the United States and Canada are expected to attend the 26th annual meeting of the International Council of Religious Education, to be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, from February 8 through 14.

The theme chosen for the week's meetings will be "For the Atomic Future—Teach Christ." Included on the program schedule are meetings of the Board of Trustees, the International Association of Daily Vacation Bible Schools, the Commission on Educational Program and sessions of the 17 professional advisory sections whose membership of professional religious educators is independent of the council.

A CALL TO THE CHURCHES

FOR THE FIRST ASSEMBLY OF THE WORLD COUNCIL

I

IN AUGUST 1948 THE first Assembly of the World Council of Churches will take place at Amsterdam, and all the member Churches will send their delegates. We are profoundly thankful that after long years of separation, and so soon after the most devastating war in human history, the Christian Churches throughout the world will thus be able to express and to manifest their spiritual unity.

We know that this is due to no merit of our own, but is a gift, granted to the Christian Churches by our Lord Himself against and beyond any human hope. Through the trials and persecutions of these last years, a new consciousness of fellowship has been awakened and made effective, and a flood of prayer has been released, overflowing all ecclesiastical barriers and national antagonisms. We have learned in a new way that "where one member suffers, all the members suffer with it." And we have been richly blessed by this experience. Thus we have every reason to thank and praise God, "Who only doeth wondrous things."

But this graciousness of God reminds us all both of our responsibility and of our shortcomings. The main theme before the Assembly—"Man's Disorder and God's Design"—itself shows that the Churches of Christ have failed in preventing man's disorder, and will fail again, if we try to overcome it without God's grace, and without a renewal of our own lives. We have fallen short both in speaking the Word of Christ and in doing His healing and saving work.

II.

With the blessing of God, this Assembly can mark a new experience of the glory of God, and a new acceptance by Christians and Christian Churches of their responsibility for seeking continually to bring the whole of human life and relations under the Kingship of Christ. But before attempting to make a new start, we ought to understand why we failed, and recognizing the cause of our failure, plead that the goodness of God may lead us to true repentance. The design of God declares itself in the new environment for our lives that has been created by the acts of God in Christ. In His life, death, and resurrection, and in the

coming of the Church, a new beginning has been made in human history. "What is old has gone, the new has come." But at this crisis in the existence of mankind, we are compelled to confess that the contrast between the high calling of the Church and the visible institutions called Churches is only too evident. We have failed because we ourselves have been partakers in man's disorder. Our first and deepest need is not new organization, but the renewal, or rather the rebirth, of the actual Churches. May God grant that we may hear the call of the Spirit.

III.

We confess that because of the dividedness of the Churches, also, we have fallen short in the witness we should have borne to Christ. Our Churches are divided, and by their divisions the whole work of the Church, both in speech and in action, suffers most grievous harm. We long for the day when the Lord Jesus Christ shall recapture the Churches and, manifesting His glory, lead them to speak with one clear voice and to act as those who serve Him only as their Lord. In that unity we desire to join our forces to do His work of feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the prisoner and healing the sick, to learn and to preach His truth and grace, and thus to proclaim His kingdom.

IV.

The World Council of Churches is itself both a declaration of the spiritual unity of its member Churches and a means through which they may express that unity in action. Already more than a hundred Churches have joined it from the Old and New Worlds, from the East and the West—a clear sign of the longing of the Churches for deeper fellowship in Christ. The Council stands on faith in our Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour and is a fellowship of Churches which accept that faith. It serves the Churches, and in no way seeks to legislate for them or control them. It aspires after an expression of unity in which Christians and Christian Churches, joyously aware of their oneness in Jesus Christ their Lord, and pursuing an ever fuller realization of union, shall in time of need give help and comfort to one another, and at all times inspire and exhort one another

to live worthily of their common membership in the Body of Christ. It also seeks increasingly to enable the Churches to take united action for the furtherance of Christ's Kingdom. We trust that, by God's Grace, through the meetings at Amsterdam, the World Council may be recognized by the whole membership of the constituent Churches as a clear expression and a powerful instrument of their fellowship.

We therefore call upon all Christians to join us in earnest prayer that the first Assembly of the World Council of Churches may be used of God for a rebirth of the Churches, and for their re-dedication in the unity of the faith to the common task of proclaiming His Word and doing His work among all nations.

(Issued by the Provisional Committee.)

CONTINUED AID FOR GERMANY STRESSED

The need for continued aid to Germany for the next several years was emphasized by two German church leaders—Bishop Otto Dibelius of the German Evangelical Church, and Dr. Hans Asmussen of Stuttgart, executive head of the Evangelical Church in Germany—at a luncheon given in their honor December 5 in New York by the Federal Council of Churches.

Bishop Dibelius, just before his return to Berlin after two months in the United States, asked that the American people should not forget Eastern Germany in their sending of relief supplies. Individual packages may be sent to persons in that zone.

Dr. Asmussen, recently arrived in this country under the auspices of the National Lutheran Council, voiced his appreciation for the food, clothing, and friendly wishes already received from the American people. In praising the work of the churches Dr. Asmussen said that although there are many differences of customs, doctrines and teachings among Christian groups, no difference is as strong as the bond which holds them together. He said, "I am convinced that at no point in the history of the world has Christianity held together so strongly as in our day."

In noting that Berlin is a separate area, jointly administered by the four great powers, Bishop Dibelius urged that special attention be given to rebuilding its churches and to developing church-related social activities in order to emphasize the Christian spirit.

Large Participation Due For Amsterdam Assembly

127 DENOMINATIONS ALREADY REPRESENTED

BY HENRY SMITH LEIPER

THE SCOPE of representation at the first World Assembly of Churches at Amsterdam is beyond anything which those who projected the World Council dared to hope for. It will be recalled that at Oxford, in 1937, 119 denominations were represented. At Edinburgh in that same summer 123 were represented. Already more Churches have accepted membership in the World Council than were represented in either of those historic 1937 meetings when the plans for a Council were adopted and officially transmitted to the Churches.

There were 120 persons in the first Christian Church in Jerusalem. Even at this writing, eight months before the Assembly, acceptances have been received from 127 denominations comprising all non-Roman confessional bodies. (It should be recalled that there are in all not more than a dozen main confessional divisions—Anglican, Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, etc.—in the Christian Church as a whole.

A further highly significant fact is that the Orthodox and Younger Churches are to be represented in far larger number than at Oxford and Edinburgh. To the best of the ability of the Provisional Committee, in consultation with the International Missionary Council, every Younger Church that is rightly entitled to be considered a genuinely autonomous body has been invited. It is already quite clear that most of those invited will accept.

Amsterdam has risen nobly to the tremendously difficult task of playing host to the Assembly. Despite all the demands which come upon a weary and burdened people, the Dutch Hospitality Committee has announced its intention of raising 100,000 florins toward the cost of the Assembly's entertainment in their city. That is almost half as much as the American Churches have been asked to raise for the special expenses connected with the holding of the Assembly and is impressive evidence of the importance which the Christians of the Nether-

lands attach to this forthcoming event.

The problem of hotels and housing is by no means simple. Thanks to the limitations imposed by the effects of the war and dislocations of population from smashed cities it is no easy matter to accommodate 1200 out-of-town guests with comfort and convenience. Places have been promised in sixteen hotels: but this net total is thus far but 800, with almost no single rooms. (Americans in particular are apt to think that they cannot exist without single rooms in hotels!) From this it can be seen that the plans of many who expect to go to Amsterdam during the Assembly and hope to "take in at least a few of the meetings" would better be revised.

Only those who are appointed to fill one of the coveted places in each category, such as delegate, alternate, accredited visitor, consultant, youth observer, or fraternal delegate, will be assured of getting into the Assembly sessions. These various categories have been carefully allocated. For instance, the places for 450 delegates and 450 alternates have been assigned to the 127 denominations which have thus far joined the Council. America has only 75 delegates and a like number of alternates. The number of places for accredited visitors assigned to America at present is only 25, although we hope a few more may be reassigned later if it is found that other parts of the world cannot use their full quotas. The total number represented in all categories is 1400 and since that will fill the Concertgebouw, it is obvious that there is no elasticity in the physical possibilities.

This rigidly restrictive situation needs to be understood. The meeting might be held in some part of the world where such limitations would not be involved: but there would be other difficulties, one of which would be expense of travel as well as entertainment. There are special reasons why it seems highly advisable to meet in Europe. Asia is completely out of the question at the moment. Therefore the disadvantages of meeting where accommodations and restaurant facilities are strictly limited must be faced.

At the present moment here in America, eight months before the Assembly, the names of hundreds desiring to have visitors' tickets are already on record. The number will doubtless increase as interest mounts. People in Holland and adjacent areas are also manifesting a similar interest. It would be a wonderful thing if all those interested from every land could at least listen in. But anyone who has dealt with deliberative bodies knows what would happen if the meeting place were an arena or gigantic auditorium. The real work of the Assembly would have then to be done in committee or in executive sessions.

Plans for the visitors to meet and deal with the themes of the Assembly during hours when the delegates will be in commission meetings are being formulated under the leadership of Reverend Robert S. Bilheimer, Inter-seminary Secretary of the American Committee for the World Council. There will be, as at Oxford in 1937, a very effective program for developing an understanding of the ecumenical movement and for direct participation in meaningful discussions even though these are not a part of the official proceedings of the Assembly in which, obviously, only delegates in representative capacities can participate.

In due course further announcements will be forthcoming as to the plans which are in the making. The January meeting in Geneva of the Study Commissions and the Assembly Committee will be of great importance. Dr. Henry P. Van Dusen is chairman of the Study Department and Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert heads the Assembly Committee. Those going from America for the January meetings include: Dr. Clarence T. Craig, Dr. Henry Pitney Van Dusen, Dr. O. Frederick Nolde, Rev. Robert S. Bilheimer, Dr. Henry Smith Leiper, Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert and probably Mr. Charles P. Taft.

CONFERENCE HEAD NAMED

Rev. Dennis Savage has been appointed director of the Christian Youth Conference of North America, which will be held next summer, bringing together 5,000 Protestant youth from the United States and Canada. The conference will meet at Grand Rapids, Mich., under the sponsorship of the International Council of Religious Education.

Community Techniques Are Discussed

COLUMBUS CONFERENCE DEALS WITH ROLE OF EDUCATION

By DON F. PIESTICK

ON DECEMBER 5, some 200 or more delegates left Columbus, Ohio after having participated in "The Conference on the Community and Religious Education." During the four days of the conference they had been struggling to make an alloy of two common concepts, "community" and "religious education." So far as is known, this was the first large-scale effort to bring these two fundamental concepts into dynamic relation with each other. The purpose, "to discover the role of Christian Education in the creation of a Christian Community" was, of course, not completely achieved, but an important experimental process was started which should continue to influence the structure of the Protestant churches for many decades.

When the report is published there are religious educators who are going to say that the report does not deal with religious education, and there will be sociologists who will say that the report does not deal with community. This is as it should be, for only by bringing the two together can there be a new thing; the Christian Community. New ground was broken at this conference and it would be well to remember: In breaking new ground, the better the soil, the tougher the sod.

This was a working conference; that is, there were only three major addresses. During three days there were sixteen hours provided for discussion groups. The groups were organized around types of community problems present in various parts of our society, from the small agricultural town to the metropolitan city. The significance of the conference, however, will not be found in the way it was set up, in the discussion groups, or in the addresses but in what happened to the perspective of the delegates. This alone, as it finds expression in program and promotion, will reveal the success of the conference.

Shortly after the close of the war Dr. Roy G. Ross, Executive Secretary of the International Council of Religious Education, asked Harold E. Stassen, President of the Council, what suggestions he had to make. Mr.

Stassen replied that during the war all kinds of community agencies had learned to work together to achieve desired community-wide ends, and in his judgment it would be unfortunate if the churches could not show a similar willingness to work together for common ends. One result of this conversation was The National Conference on the Community and Religious Education held in Columbus.

The difficult task facing the conference can best be sighted by referring to the addresses. Dr. Mark A. Dawber, Executive Secretary of the Home Missions Council of North America, in the first address said that the most significant thing to remember about community "is that it is made up of people—men, women, children. Thrown together for the most part by circumstances, they are engaged in the business of trying to work out a satisfactory life for themselves." But too often it has been forgotten that "the community implies not individuals *per se* but individuals enmeshed in a net of relationships that surround them—family, friends, neighbors, and associations." Here is the common crucial concern of both democracy and religion. "In the last nook and cranny of our fair land" the great issues of government, school and church must be struggled with and thought through if the future is to be desirable. Consequently, "community must be conceived of not in terms of geography but of spirituality; it is something more than a place, it is a state of mind and a spiritual fellowship."

In the second address, Dr. Dwight E. Stevenson of the College of the Bible, Lexington, Kentucky, said that the function of religion was "to keep group-life personalized." The pressure of our society encourages us to see humanity as crowds, not as persons. The function of religion in community is that of making it possible for each human being to see other human beings as persons of infinite worth.

The purpose of the conference had been sharply drawn and since it was the first effort of its kind, it is not surprising that there was trouble in keeping the thoughts in focus. The place, importance, and methods of the present church programs kept flaring

up to confuse efforts at incisive thinking. Dr. Russell J. Humbert, pastor of Trinity Methodist Church, Youngstown, Ohio, brought an excellent message on the place and importance of Christian laymen in present-day society and the relation of this to strong churches. But to have merely some Christian laymen at work in church and society is not assurance a Christian community is being created. Community is more than an aggregation of people and social institutions, just as a house is more than a pile of lumber, nails and paint.

An editorial committee is at work putting the report in readiness for printing. Present plans are for the report to include a statement of basic philosophy, the text of the addresses, the minutes of the seven discussion groups and the report of the findings committee. The report should be off the press in the early spring and will be available from the office of the International Council of Religious Education, 203 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago 1, Illinois.

A good start has been made on an issue which is coming more and more into the thinking of churchmen. In the months that follow much will be heard on the subject as the recommendations begin to be carried out. The one which appealed most to me requests the general secretaries of the Federal Council, the Home Missions Council and the International Council "to consider together the possibility of naming a committee of theologians, sociologists and religious educators to consider an adequate and contemporary theological basis for the social, theological and educational responsibility of the church for community."

HYMN CONTEST ANNOUNCED

Monmouth College, Monmouth Ill., has announced its annual contest for the best musical setting of a metrical Psalm for congregational singing. This year it is for Psalm 95. The prize offered is \$100 and the competition closes February 29, 1948. Those interested should write to Thomas Hamilton, Monmouth, Ill., for the details of the contest and the metrical version of the Psalm.

Council Works With Children In Rural Areas

THREE years ago the Minnesota Council of Churches decided to include in its program a Department of Children's Work to meet two great needs, namely, 1—The training of teachers for children; 2—The enlisting of girls and boys in rural areas not now receiving Christian education.

The Minnesota Council of Church Women gladly accepted the responsibility for the financing of this work. Two trained workers, Mrs. August Beck and Miss Frances Myers, are employed to assist the churches primarily in these rural communities in reaching these two objectives. This work is now well under way.

Miss Myers' own story of her recent work in Aitkin County will give you a glimpse of this program:

Thirty-nine children began Sunday School in June in two Aitkin County churches as a result of the ministry of the Minnesota Council of Church Women.

In conversation a Probate Judge in Aitkin County stated "A woman in Ball Bluff wants to start a Sunday School: I don't know her name."

This statement started a thread of activities running through that community. Result—A Sunday School with 23 children and a number of adults who remained for the service on preaching Sundays.

Let us follow this thread in the religious picture of Aitkin County. A visit in the homes of another community was the first step. I was told that this place was the first settlement north of Libby, but no one told me it was 25 miles north. Nor did they mention that it was all dirt road with sink-holes.

These calls yielded the information that an Augustana Lutheran Church was serving an area ten miles long and four miles wide with preaching twice a month by the Rev. S. A. Erling, of Palisade.

No one could remember just when they had had Sunday School, but the church had voted to begin one.

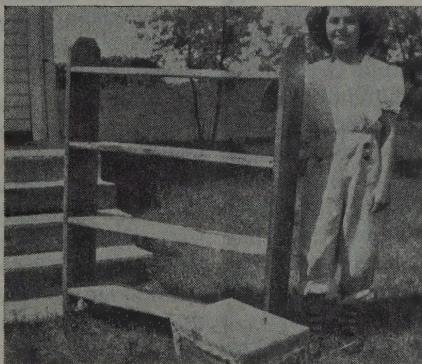
Mrs. Mack Anderson, comparatively new in the community, and a school teacher, and Mrs. Erling, the pastor's wife, together touched off the spark of enthusiasm for this activity.



The Church at Sandy Lake



The New Class at Ball Bluff



Manual Training is Included along with Other Types of Instruction

A call upon Pastor and Mrs. Erling in Palisade came next. They were delighted with my offer of assistance. We planned a Vacation Bible School for the first week in June with Sunday School to begin on the 8th.

The scene next shifts to the Twin Cities where Miss Natalie Hain of the University Farm, Wesley Foundation, was recruited to help and gave voluntary assistance in the work in Aitkin County in June.

The thread reappears back in Palisade, Aitkin County, on June 1st with the morning church service. The afternoon was spent in getting acquainted

in Ball Bluff. Miss Hain and I were entertained in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mack Anderson through whose store the life of the community runs.

Mornings of the week were spent in the Vacation School and afternoons in calling. It is a rich experience to lead eager youngsters in discovering Jesus and His way of living.

Kimberly Community Church presented a different picture. The Sunday School and preaching service had been discontinued. Only the Ladies Aid Society remained active.

Again it was a school teacher, Mrs. Donald Lundberg, who provided the local spark and drive. She recruited four teachers and assistants for the Sunday School, who also helped in the Vacation School. After securing advice from the Methodist minister in Aitkin and from several publishing houses, she selected and ordered excellent materials for the Church School. Sixteen children attended the Vacation School and the opening session of the Sunday School; more were to be drawn in.

Skeptical teen-age boys, who came, afraid it would be "sissy stuff" made chairs out of pop cases and old carpet for the pre-school class. They also built a beautiful pine bookcase. These boys were convinced that here was a way of life worthy of their attention.

The weeks spent working with the children in the different communities were filled with wonderful experiences. It is gratifying to see in them such a growth of interest and enthusiasm toward the life and work of the Church.

"GREATEST STORY" IS AVAILABLE IN RECORDS

Albums of records taken from the radio program, "The Greatest Story Ever Told," are now available from the American Broadcasting Company for use in religious teaching and in furthering the aims of tolerance. Each of the 21 albums offered contains two complete broadcasts, from which all sponsor mention has been deleted.

In providing the albums on a non-profit basis it is understood that they cannot be broadcast over the air but will be used privately, including churches, on phonographs or public address systems. The albums—two complete broadcasts in each—may be obtained at a cost of \$4.05 per album by writing to: Recording Division, American Broadcasting Company, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, New York.

Growth of State Councils Seen as Encouraging Sign

By CHARLES P. TAFT

President, The Federal Council of the
Churches of Christ in America

ONE of the most encouraging signs of the growing unity within American Protestantism is the development of state councils of churches.

These councils are a voluntary partnership, and in them Evangelical communions testify to the fact that the local parish is more than denominational; it is a symbol, at the grass roots, of a common Christian ministry. The state councils furnish an agency for stimulating the accomplishment of the church's cooperative tasks in community life. As such, the state council is the channel for each participating communion to minister more effectively to the religious needs of the citizens of the state, unmet in so many areas. The state council of churches is not "The Church," but it is the churches themselves working together, with no existence apart from them; it is their instrument.

The lack of a sound Protestant strategy among scattered churches in local communities is widely recognized and deeply deplored. This lack is chiefly responsible for the churches' feeble impact upon the human problems of community life—within the jurisdiction of state and municipal government, in the fields of social welfare, public education, the economic order, the press and radio.

Fortunately, through federal, state, and local councils of churches a greater unity is coming. The number of state and local councils has nearly tripled during the past five years. Communions now recognize they cannot adequately preach and teach the Gospel if the sectarian isolation of the past is perpetuated by them today, especially in the smaller communities. As a part of the ecumenical trend toward a larger Christian unity throughout the whole of Christendom, they have created these state councils, through which, by their own direct representatives, they may think and speak and act together in behalf of their common ministry.

The cost of this cooperative ministry should really be borne by the member communions. This should be done either through their area budget appropriations or through encourage-

ment of their local churches to accept and pay for the cost of their share of their cooperative work. Useful yardsticks are available by which to measure and determine what each share is.

It is encouraging to see how more and more communions are accepting their share of this cost. This trend should be further extended until it becomes adequate to cover the entire budgetary requirements of state councils through the financial support of the participating communions in each state. I believe in this policy because of the success which has attended it to date. I am further convinced of its wisdom because the compulsions of the Christian Gospel itself require that churches cooperate with each other to make their message of love, good will, human worth and sacrificial service known and obeyed now.

Jersey Denominations Support State Council

A concrete example of the importance of the support of state denominational leaders in the organization and functioning of state councils is found in the New Jersey Council of Churches, which under its constitution, adopted at the time of reorganization in 1945, calls for member denominations to support the council with a budget equivalent to approximately one-fourth of one percent of the total church spending. Some of the denominations were able to allot this money directly from denominational funds, but in the case of the Presbyterian Synod of New Jersey the allocation of such money is left to the local church.

In New Jersey the support of the Presbyterian group is especially important because it comprises approximately one-fourth of the strength of the state council. Realizing this, Dr. Edward Allen Morris, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Trenton and chairman of the Presbyterian representatives on the New Jersey State Council, initiated a campaign to assure whole-hearted support of this cooperative program by the churches of his denomination. In discussing the reasons why state denominational leaders should take the lead in assuring support for state council work, Dr. Morris said: "The reasons are so

numerous and so obvious. The urgent necessity in our day of a common front, for community action, is one reason. I believe with all my heart in interdenominational cooperation. No one denomination has a monopoly of the 'faith once for all delivered.' Maybe we can wither and die separately if that is our wish, but if we are to live and work effectively we must live and work together."

N. H. Hospital to Have Protestant Chaplain

Through joint action of the New Hampshire Council of Churches and the State Hospital authorities, the new post of Protestant Chaplain has been created on the staff of the hospital located at Concord. Rev. William R. Andrew, now Protestant Chaplain and Clinical Training Supervisor at the State Hospital in Elgin, Ill., has been invited to fill the position.

Until recently the duties of ministering to the nearly 1,500 Protestant patients at the hospital were assumed by members of the Concord Ministerial Association. The new full-time post will provide an opportunity for a larger program of religious service to the patients. Mr. Andrew will work with the resident Catholic chaplain in a similar manner to that followed by chaplains in the armed forces.

It is expected that a clinical training program will be established at the New Hampshire State Hospital where the work of the chaplain has been thoroughly organized and a full-time program developed.

STATISTICIANS ASK FOR FEDERAL RELIGIOUS CENSUS

The Association of Statisticians of American Religious Bodies, meeting recently in New York, unanimously reaffirmed previous actions in favor of a federal census of religious bodies. Operations on the 1946 decennial census, much of the work for which had been completed, were suspended by the Bureau of the Census because Congress specifically denied funds for the project beyond July 1, 1947.

The statisticians, representing Protestant, Catholic and Jewish bodies, called upon Congress to provide adequate funds for completion of the census and a mandatory federal census of religious bodies. Under present law the Bureau of the Census is authorized but not required, to act; therefore special appropriations are necessary for each census extending over several fiscal years.

Public Relations, Evangelism Found To Overlap--Douglass

THE relationship of public relations to evangelism and to the general campaign of church extension is emphasized in a study of the churches of Hartford, Conn., made by the Committee for Cooperative Field Research under the direction of Dr. H. Paul Douglass. "Probably not more than 48 per cent of the historically Protestant constituency of membership age is enrolled in the Hartford churches," Dr. Douglass points out in the summary of his report, and then proceeds to suggest a solution: "The problem here is not to create Christian belief or conviction, but to get them acted upon. . . . Organized religion in the city does not now have aggressive promotional agencies or materials of information and stimulation such as business, industry and social agencies have. Religion has not exercised normal salesmanship."

Discussing in more particular the relationship of public relations and evangelism, Dr. Douglass points out that their objectives necessarily overlap. This same point is also made in his study of the churches of Cincinnati. "Of the great mass of nominal believers and past church adherents in Greater Cincinnati, altogether too few now belong to the Cincinnati churches as enrolled members." And this, Dr. Douglass concludes, would seem to evidence a deficiency in skill and intelligence in public relations, as well as in evangelizing energy.

"Organized religion should work with

redoubled vigor, both at improving public relations and at effective evangelization," the Cincinnati report recommends. "An approach to the public, on behalf of the churches, should be made through all the avenues of publicity, so far as is possible, on an inter-faith basis. Protestantism should conduct frequent evangelistic campaigns of house-to-house visitation on a scale which will make the permanent assimilation of new adherents possible."

Dr. Douglass recommends, as part of this program, that frequent canvasses, limited in area and with careful preparation and provision for systematic follow-up, be carried on "as a characteristic phase of the decentralized cooperative program of the Council of Churches. Such canvasses should be carried on from year to year only in such neighborhoods as are ready to make the necessary preparation, and mobilize the resources required to make them effective."

The Cincinnati report points out that Protestant churches are not the only ones with large numbers of nominal adherents who belong to no church. In 1935 when a city-wide house to house inquiry discovered 162 thousand persons who reported themselves as Catholics in Cincinnati, Catholic authorities reported to the Census of Religious Bodies a combined membership of only 92 thousand—only 43 per cent of the professed Catholics in the city.

untary contributions of citizens. In a democratic society churches, colleges and many community welfare societies are appropriately independent of both government subsidy and government control. In recognition of this democratic principle, our government has had a tax policy which has exempted from taxation that portion of the individual's income (up to fifteen percent of the net taxable income) which he contributed to such private and voluntary community agencies.

"Our traditional tax policy has recognized the important function of voluntary religious organizations in the American way of life. Any change in this well established policy would affect the vital interests of our nation as well as the interests of the churches and other voluntary religious associations. The strength of our churches and the strength of our democracy are closely

inter-related.

"With regard to businesses owned by religious organizations, it is our understanding that tax exemption on net profits is granted to the owning organization only when all of its income is used for religious purposes, when it is operated solely for religious purposes, and when no part of any net income goes to benefit private shareholders or individuals. Abuses of these conditions should not be tolerated, and any necessary and appropriate methods of dealing with such abuses would undoubtedly be supported by the churches."

BALTIMORE, BUFFALO HOLD CONFERENCES

The fourth and fifth in the series of Conferences on the Church and Economic Life were held in Baltimore and Buffalo, December 2-4, and December 12-14, respectively. The Buffalo meeting was attended by 125, and the Baltimore meeting by approximately 100, with 15 denominations represented in each case.

The Baltimore Conference on the Church and Economic Life, sponsored by the Council of Churches and Christian Education of Maryland-Delaware, began with addresses by Dr. T. Guthrie Speers, who spoke on "Economic Life—a Christian Responsibility," and by Mr. Charles P. Taft, who discussed the values and procedures in meetings that bring together church people drawn from the major economic groups, together with ministers. The major part of the time of the conference was devoted to consideration by the delegates in four discussion sections on the basis of the responsibility of the churches for economic life, particular issues which call for the concern of the churches, and ways and methods by which the churches can be active.

The Buffalo Conference, sponsored by the Council of Churches of Buffalo and Erie County, was presided over by Dean Lewis A. Froman of the University of Buffalo. In his address Mr. Arthur S. Flemming, Chairman of the Department of the Church and Economic Life, emphasized the obligation that rests upon the local church to undertake study and action in economic life. Throughout Saturday the delegates met in four discussion sections, taking up concurrently the character of the responsibility of the churches, the relevance of Christian principles to particular economic conditions in the area, and, lastly, the bearing of Christian principles upon national and international economic issues.

DR. CAVERT TESTIFIES BEFORE TAX GROUP

At the hearings before the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives on December 9 on the taxing of business operations carried on by tax-exempt organizations Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert appeared in behalf of the Federal Council. The chairman of the Committee, Congressman Harold Knutson, explained that the Committee had no proposals to make at this time but was studying the question.

Dr. Cavert's testimony was limited to a statement of general principles involved in the exemption of religious, charitable and educational bodies. He said in part: "Throughout our history it has been assumed that many basic community services are to be provided by private religious, educational and charitable agencies supported by vol-

Women of Sixty Countries Will Mark Day of Prayer

ON FEBRUARY 13, 1948, the first Friday in Lent, the women of the world will again meet for the annual observance of the World Day of Prayer. From the break of dawn in the Fiji Islands, across the world and back to the International Date Line, women of sixty countries on every continent will kneel in prayer. In the United States alone more than 10,000 communities will hold united services marking that day.

The observance, now under the auspices of the United Council of Church Women, was first held under the present name in 1927. From an initial offering of \$70 from one of the first Days of Prayer, the amount of contributions has grown to more than \$180,000. Offerings received from the thousands of gatherings all over the world go to the Home Missions Council and the Foreign Missions Conference to further their work in the mission field.

In commenting on the World Day of Prayer and the support it gives to missions, Miss Louisa R. Shotwell, assistant secretary of the Home Missions Council said recently: "World Day of

Prayer offerings make a difference—to Christian college students in India and China and Japan; to foreign students in the United States, who must be guided to seek out the best in American culture and American Christian family life in order to serve in their own countries; to masses of people in the Orient, in Africa, in the Near East who hunger to read of Christ and His message in words that they can understand. World Day of Prayer offerings make a difference—to the American Indian in government school or hospital; to Negro sharecroppers of the South; to migrant families following crops around the calendar and around the country."

In expanding the program for this year's observance, the United Council of Church Women has announced that radio stations and networks will cooperate with programs devoted to the event. A new program for a World Day of Prayer children's service has been prepared, and it is expected that girls and boys throughout the world will join with adults in observing the special day.

PLANS SET FOR FIRST ORTHODOX SEMINARY

Announcement of plans for the first Russian Orthodox Academy in America to train Russian Orthodox priests at the university level was made December 17 by the Right Reverend John, Bishop of Brooklyn, at a reception held by the Faculty and Students of Union Theological Seminary, New York City, for the Faculty and Students of St. Vladimir's Russian Orthodox Seminary. Plans for the Academy received the official approval of the Council of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church in America at their Sobor held in San Francisco in November 1947.

To augment the present faculty of St. Vladimir's Seminary, and raise the standards of the Seminary to university levels, top-ranking Russian theological scholars will be brought from Europe, including Very Reverend George Florovsky, of the Orthodox Theological Academy in Paris, a member of the Provisional Committee of the World Council of Churches; Prof. E. V. Spector, former President of Kiev University, and Professor N. S.

Arseniev, formerly of Warsaw University.

Plans for close academic cooperation of St. Vladimir's Russian Orthodox Academy with Union Theological Seminary and Columbia University were announced by Prof. G. P. Fedotov of Union Theological Seminary, with the intention of establishing the Academy as "one of the specialized schools" of Columbia University.

Dr. Henry Smith Leiper, Associate General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, hailed the plans for the Academy as a furtherance of the ecumenical movement of Christian Churches "which has long recognized its need for closer ties with the Orthodox Church of Russia."

YOUTH GROUPS TO MERGE

Another step toward the uniting of two of the largest youth organizations in the United States and Canada was taken when the committee of the United Christian Youth Movement recently gave general approval to the basic principles drawn up for the merger of that organization with the International Society of Christian En-

deavor. The Christian Endeavor, oldest church youth group in the United States, approved the principles at their convention last July, and a decision is hoped for within a year.

The UCYM is the cooperative youth movement of 40 denominations, 34 state councils and 16 national youth-serving agencies. It is administered through the International Council of Religious Education.

Social Agencies And Churches Cooperate

Churches and social agencies can combine their resources successfully in solving human problems. This fact is demonstrated by the Massachusetts Council of Churches and the Family Society, one of the state's oldest private welfare agencies, in their new statewide experiment in social service. A full-time consultant in social service is maintained jointly by the two organizations, and provides practical advice to ministers, at the same time making available to social workers the cooperation of the clergymen.

One of the most important achievements of this cooperative effort has been in service given to veterans who need homes, jobs and assistance in their readjustment to civilian life.

"So much of the minister's effort is necessarily in the field of social work that this cooperation between two important agencies is enormously aiding each one to solve human problems," says Miss Julia Whiteside, consultant for the two agencies. "We aid him to find the local resources he needs to help people. On the other hand, we show the social worker how to obtain for her clients needed religious help from the clergymen of their respective denominations."

RADIO COMMITTEE IN ATLANTA

An active radio committee which has been set up and is working to improve the quality of religious broadcasting and provide varied programs on local stations, is one of the recent accomplishments of the Atlanta (Georgia) Christian Council. The Council's continuing program, developed through its various committees, includes recent conferences on Evangelism and Marriage and the Home; fellowship meetings with local and visiting speakers; Race Relations, Civics and Social Service Committees and many community-wide services.

Canon Pepper Urges More DPs Be Settled in This Country

THE entreaty for help for the host of homeless people in Europe, displaced victims of the war, has been joined by the voice of another Protestant leader, upon his return to America from a firsthand survey of the Displaced Persons camps on the continent.

The churchman, Canon Almon R. Pepper, Vice-chairman of the Church World Service Board of Directors, declared at the end of his trip that "America is losing a great opportunity by not allowing many more of these freedom-loving people to come here to resettle."

Canon Pepper, also a member of the Displaced Persons Committee of CWS, is a prominent leader in the Protestant Episcopal Church, holding the office of Executive Secretary of the Department of Christian Social Relations of that denomination.

There are about 850,000 displaced persons in camps in western Europe, he said, "most of whom came as forced laborers to Germany, or were left there by the ebb and flow of the battling armies."

Church World Service's work among these people has been carried on chiefly in the American Zone of Occupation in Germany and Austria, where probably half of the displaced persons are Protestant or Eastern Orthodox in religious affiliation. They "are chiefly Lutherans, Mennonites, Serbian and Russian Orthodox, along with a few Baptists and Methodists, and most of them come from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Yugoslavia, Poland and parts of Russia."

"These people," he asserted, "are the particular responsibility of the American church groups which are working through CWS."

Canon Pepper described the program of Church World Service among these unfortunate war victims as threefold: Immigration aid, welfare work and religious ministry.

Church World Service has helped about 1350 of these people to come to the United States to find new homes, since the spring of 1946, in accordance with government regulations.

The welfare program provides supplementary food and clothing for many of the people and sponsors specialized projects designed to enable them to take care of themselves, he explained. There are projects for training teachers, particularly kindergarten teachers. Vocational training projects in operation

include shoe repairing, tailoring, tinsmithing, electrical and radio work, millinery, embroidering, arts and crafts and others. These help train unskilled men and women and retrain those who have lost their skills during the war.

An occupational therapy project has been set up in a tuberculosis hospital, the Episcopal leader noted. There are clothing centers where women make clothing from materials sent from America. A tracer service was recently set up to aid displaced people in locating members of their families who were scattered over Europe by the war.

DATA FOR SPEAKERS GIVES RACE PROGRESS

Among the comments included in the new pamphlet "Information for Speakers," which furnishes background material for use in connection with Race Relations Sunday, are the following:

"The Massachusetts FEPC Commission at the close of its first year of operation reported a total of 251 com-

plaints of employment discrimination received and 148 discriminatory practices ended." . . . "The State of New Jersey set a precedent by having adopted by its State Constitutional Convention during August, 1947, an anti-discrimination clause that would ban segregation in the public school and the militia."

In addition to recounting accomplishments this background information provides data about problems that will occupy the attention of people working in the field of race relations such as: Over 14,000 Navajo children not attending school because there are no schools; the rapid increase of the Puerto Rican population, particularly in New York City; the inability of Japanese residents in America to become naturalized citizens; lynching.

The pamphlet offers a variety of material on racial groups including Negroes, Spanish-speaking and Japanese-Americans. It summarizes recent population trends, describes community conditions as they are related to different races, and discusses progress with regard to segregation, education and employment.

The 1948 Race Relations Sunday, for which the theme, "Practice Brotherhood Now!" has been chosen, will be observed February 8.



The Federal Council staff members pictured above each marked more than 20 years of service with the Council, at the annual Christmas party. Front Row, left to right: Aenid A. Sanborn, Elizabeth Kite, Bessie Lash, Inez M. Cavert, Edith A. Trotter. Second Row: Mrs. Emma Jane Stevens, Louise Hogewe, Marion Nelson, Frieda Briesemeister. Back Row: Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, Mrs. James Amerman, Dr. F. Ernest Johnson, Dr. Walter W. Van Kirk. Not present when picture was taken: Antonia Froendt, Olyve Jeter, Mrs. Mabel Relyea, Alma Schwind, Benson Y. Landis, James Myers.

WHERE WERE YOU ON . . . ?

Federal Council Staff Members Give Schedule For Tuesday, Dec. 9

"... AND I HAD ONE AND A HALF EVENINGS WITH MY FAMILY THIS WEEK," was the parting comment of a Federal Council department head, after giving a summary of the general administrative duties, the numerous speaking engagements, meetings, and personal conferences that had made up his week's work.

Any illusions we might have had that the regular schedule of a Federal Council executive consisted of a 9 to 5 routine in his office, were shattered after talking with some 20 staff secretaries. In addition to planning and directing the program of a department, and maintaining regular field contact with state and city councils, the department head is also called upon for countless other duties that are related to his program. The extent and variety of these duties becomes apparent when one begins to ask Federal Council secretaries what they are doing. For example, let's take one day—Tuesday, December 9, and see what everyone was doing. . . .

For CAMERON HALL, executive secretary of the Department of the Church and Economic Life, Tuesday was the only full day he was in his office during the entire week. It was spent in making plans for further weekend conferences on the church and economic life, and in working on a pamphlet, "Pronouncements on Religion and Economic Life," soon to be published. The rest of the week included trips to Washington and to Holyoke, Mass. for committee meetings and speaking engagements, and Thursday night's departure for the Buffalo weekend conference on the church and economic life.

A lecture to 500 Teachers College students, the preparation of the current edition of the weekly *Information Service*, and several interviews were among the notations on the calendar of F. ERNEST JOHNSON, head of the Department of Research and Education.

LLOYD STONER's secretary reported that the recently appointed director of the University Christian Mission was conducting a week-long mission at the University of Wyoming.

DEANE EDWARDS had just returned from Granby, Massachusetts, where

he attended a worship seminar in which some fifty rural churches had participated in a two-day program, and was concentrating on plans for the promotion of two recent publications, "Hymns of the Rural Spirit" and "Meditations Personal and Social." One of Mr. Edwards' ever-present responsibilities as secretary of the worship commission is the planning of daily chapel services for Council staff members.

BENSON V. LANDIS, whose joint responsibilities as secretary of the Washington Office Committee and secretary of the Committee on Town and Country prompted him to describe himself as a "dual personality," was in the Washington Office the early part of the week, at the same time preparing to return to New York on Thursday to continue work on plans for the 1948 National Convocation of Town and Country Churches, scheduled for San Jose, California.

Two lectures on religion and mental health—one at a New York City college and another in East Orange, New Jersey—were given by SEWARD HILTNER, executive secretary of the Commission on Religion and Health, in addition to writing two articles and holding counselling interviews. Two full days out of Mr. Hiltner's work week were taken up with meetings and speaking engagements in connection with the work of the Commission.

After three speaking engagements in Pennsylvania, J. OSCAR LEE, head of the Race Relations Department, was in his office busy with the issuing of the Program Service Memo, a mimeographed publication which goes to 300 key leaders in Race Relations, and working on plans for his department's annual meeting and on future program plans.

DR. SAMUEL McCREA CAVERT, the Council's general secretary, testified at a hearing in Washington, D. C. in regard to the proposed taxing of church businesses, took an 11 o'clock train to New York and at 3:30 went into a meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Committee for the World Council of Churches.

The Executive Secretary of the Department of International Justice and Goodwill was also in Washington on

Tuesday. DR. WALTER VAN KIRK conferred with several persons, in and out of Congress, on proposed Universal Military Training. At the same time, RICHARD FAGLEY, of the same department was continuing preparations for the January meeting of the department, to be held in Philadelphia.

JOHN OLIVER NELSON, working against a deadline, was devoting as much of his time as possible to writing a book soon to be published by Haddam House, and said that he was to leave Friday afternoon for Lansford, Pennsylvania, to participate in their annual weekend conference of ministers.

The program for Ashrams to be held next July and August was the primary concern of H. H. McCONNELL, field secretary of the Evangelism Department, and his schedule called for additional contacting of speakers and for layouts of the program of the meetings.

ROSWELL BARNES, whose work as Associate Secretary of the Federal Council essentially emphasizes the direction of Council program in general, is not exempt from time-consuming activities outside his regular duties. His Tuesday schedule showed staff conferences and interviews with executives outside the Council on such matters as the relation of the churches to Friendship Train, anti-Protestant demonstrations in Spain, and a child welfare problem; while the latter part of the week's calendar showed a Church World Service meeting, and a Buck Hill Falls, Pa. meeting to be attended.

Since he was to be in Washington and Wilmington, Delaware, for committee meetings during the last three days of the week, DR. BEVERLEY BOYD of the Christian Social Relations Department was devoting his time on Tuesday to setting up the program for the Cincinnati conference on Home for the Aged, February 20-21.

HENRY SMITH LEIPER, Executive Secretary of the American Committee for the World Council, had a meeting of the executive committee of his department scheduled for the afternoon in addition to an appointment with the editor of the *United Nations World*. Dr. Leiper had preached twice the previous Sunday, proving that Council executives, although not in the active ministry, are still called upon for Sunday sermons.

In the radio department, executive secretary FRANK C. GOODMAN was working on Christmas programs, particularly the annual broadcast of caro

from the carillon of Riverside Church in New York City Christmas Eve.

J. QUINTER MILLER, associate general secretary, had a meeting with representatives of the Foreign Missions Conference concerning the development of field plans for their 1948 assembly; presided at a meeting of the Joint Committee on Cooperative Field Research, and outlined the budget requirements for that committee.

The secretary of the Commission on Marriage and the Home, L. FOSTER WOOD, was working with the Family Life Committee of the Protestant Council of New York in planning its program in the Greater New York area, and was in the midst of correcting galley proofs on the new booklet, "Pastoral Counseling in Family Relationships."

JESSE M. BADER, head of the Evangelism Department, was in Chicago on Tuesday, for a meeting to confer on the National Christian Teaching Mission, and from there went on to Minneapolis and Cleveland to confer with local church council executives, returning to New York Saturday morning. An idea of what happens when a man who has the responsibility for directing and administering a department still remains a preacher can be seen in the fact that because Dr. Bader had to preach twice on Sunday in a southern city, it was necessary for him to sit up two nights on a plane, covering the distances from New York south and then to the mid-West in the fastest possible way.

For the public relations department the BULLETIN deadline date was near, and JOHN L. FORTSON, public relations director, was gathering material and writing stories for the forthcoming issue. At the same time the script for the weekly broadcast of "Religion in the News" had to be written, and advance releases prepared for the conference of the Student Volunteer Movement in Kansas, for which he is to handle press relations.

CLOTHING DRIVE LAUNCHED

The opening event in a state-wide emergency clothing drive for overseas relief was a War Victims Luncheon under the auspices of the Colorado Council of Churches. Feeling it was the responsibility of the churches to sponsor the civic appeal for supplies to be sent to the needy of Europe and Asia, the Council invited representatives of all civic clubs, youth and women's organizations and churches to attend the luncheon and to hear the announcement of the detailed plans for the state United Clothing Drive.

Missions Program Brings New Appeal to College Campus

"RELIGION in Life Week is causing me to think—and I don't want to," said a student at Louisiana Polytechnic Institute. Students are stimulated to think and to see the relation of Christianity to all areas of personal and social living. Some students have thought of religion only as a segmented, Sunday-go-to-meeting, kind of thing. The Mission leaders are proving that this is a misunderstanding; that Christianity is a part of life and not something apart from it.

The success of a Mission is dependent upon the local organization and the adult leadership secured by the University Christian Mission. When a campus has a weak organization and has allowed the responsibility to center in a few individuals, the Week has been less effective. If the leadership is poor, the results are limited.

Seven Missions have been held so far this year. There will be 17 more during this academic year. These campuses have reacted favorably to the united approach made by the U.C.M. team of leaders and speakers. These leaders have one basic concern—to let the students see the value of the Christian life and to focus thinking on Protestant Evangelical Christianity. They are knit together as a team and the students see it and feel it.

The "contagion of triumphant spirits" is important. Students and faculty come to know outstanding religious persons. Their lives are enriched because of such friendships and sharing. One speaker said, "One per-

sonal conference alone has made this entire week worth while for me." This student comment is typical: "Doesn't he (speaker) make Christianity live—and you can see that his religion means something to him."

The Georgia State College for Women had Fern Babcock, William Crowe, Mrs. Gould Wickey and S. K. Patro as speakers. Northwest Missouri State Teachers College was stimulated by Robert Allard, Clark Ellzey and L. L. Leftwich. At West Virginia University, Mrs. J. W. Hastings, Gabriel Nahas, Victor Obenhaus, Heil Bollinger, E. A. Holbrook, Raymond Seeger participated. Bowling Green State University (Ohio) heard S. K. Patro, George Buttrick, John O. Nelson, Samuel Smith, Mrs. J. Kyles and James Stoner.

Too often religion is considered unimportant because it is not given a place in our public school educational program. The University Christian Mission makes an appeal as a united Protestant program. College presidents, faculty and students appreciate the Missions for this influence and stabilizing factor.

Students have been led to Christ. Some students have seen, for the first time, the vitality of the Christian faith; others have strengthened their own convictions because of this religious concentration; many students have come to the realization that they can be Christian in whatever vocation they enter; and still others have given themselves to Christian service.

JAMES L. STONER

Civil Rights Endorsed By Virginia Council

The report of President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights was endorsed in general at the recent executive committee meeting of the Virginia Council of Churches, held at Richmond. The committee described the report as "a notable contribution to our progress toward a working democracy" and recommended it to all church people as "a document worthy of study."

"We note with approval," the Council said, "that the Committee was sensitive not only to the rights of our largest minority, the Negro, but also

to other minority groups within our society."

The Council's statement added:

"Among the objectives in the report which call for special attention from the churches in view of the Christian principles involved, are the protection of human life against mob violence, equal opportunity for employment and education, and the right of every adult citizen to a vote."

The Council said it recognized the "legitimate concern" of the government over the "loyalty of those who serve it in the interest of national security," and that it shared "the anxiety of the Committee on Civil Rights for proper safeguards for the rights of the individual."

Memorial Services Are Conducted for Dr. Speer



Monday afternoon, December 15th, in the First Presbyterian Church, in New York City, a service was held in memory of Dr. Robert Elliott Speer, who died on November 23rd in Bryn Mawr, Pa. The service was under the auspices of The Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., with the cooperation of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, the Foreign Missions Conference of North America, and the Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey.

Brief tributes to Dr. Speer were voiced by Rev. John A. Mackay, D.D., President of The Board of Foreign Missions, on the executive staff of which Dr. Speer served for over forty years. Dr. Mackay also speaking on behalf of Princeton Seminary, of the Board of Directors of which Dr. Speer was President; by Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, General Secretary of the Federal Council, of which Dr. Speer was at one time President; and by Rev. Wynn C. Fairfield, D.D., General Secretary of the Foreign Missions Conference with which Dr. Speer was identified for many years. Others who participated in the service were: Rev. J. Valdemar Moldenhawer, D.D., pastor of the First Presbyterian Church; Rt. Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill, D.D., Presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church; Rev. Henry Sloane Coffin, D.D., former President of the Union Theological Seminary, New York, and former Moderator of the Presbyterian Church; and Rev. Arthur J. Brown, D.D., Secretary Emeritus of the Board of Foreign Missions.

Stewardship Council Asks Greater Giving

Members of all Churches were challenged to give much more for the support of Christian services, both at home and abroad, by Dr. Arthur Henry Limouze, in the annual sermon before 255 members of the United Stewardship Council and Laymen's Stewardship Conference November 23, at Buck Hill Falls, Pa. Dr. Limouze, President of the Council, is Director of Promotion for the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.

"The need of men has been met all through time not by everybody seeing it, but by a minority who have done something about it," he said. He maintained that Christian giving should be motivated by high ideals of service, love and personal dedication to God.

Dr. Limouze told a combined meeting of laymen from the various denominations and the national secretaries responsible for stewardship, that "giving is not an incident in the Christian life. It is a cardinal duty like prayer, bringing its own blessing. We need its spirit in the church today."

This conference, the largest in the history of the Council, concluded after adopting a program of area Stewardship Conferences for laymen in several parts of the nation.

Records Available On Child Care and Training

A series of fourteen transcribed fifteen-minute programs on child care and training have recently been completed under the direction of Rev. Luther E. Woodward, Field Consultant of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene, for distribution by the National Community Chests and Councils organization. Dr. Woodward, who is a member of the Executive Committee of the Federal Council's Department of Pastoral Service, appears in each record with the "Inquiring Parent," a trained actor or actress. A few of the titles of the records will suggest the high interest value of the content: Getting along with Teen-Agers, Competition in the Family Group, When Children Are Afraid, Authority in the Home, Young Children's Questions.

In communities where the series has been purchased by the local Community Chests, churches may be able to rent records from that source. Other Chests may become interested to procure the series if churches make known their interest. Churches wishing to purchase the series (individual pro-

gram will not be sold) may procure them through Community Chests and Councils, 155 East 44th St., New York 17, N. Y. An audition record will be sent on request. Prices range from \$25 to \$75 a series, depending on the size of the Community Chest.

YOUTH WEEK THEME NAMED

"Jesus Christ is Lord," theme of the recent Second World Conference of Christian Youth at Oslo, has been selected for the theme of Youth Week in 1948, scheduled for the week of January 25 through February 1.

Youth Week, sponsored by the United Christian Youth Movement, will be celebrated by some four or five million youth of the United States and Canada, representing forty denominations, 34 state councils and 16 national youth-serving organizations such as the Boy and Girl Scouts, and the YW and YMCA.

The observance, which had its beginnings more than 30 years ago, has grown into a continent-wide celebration in local church groups, sectional youth councils and denominational youth rallies.

"PICTURE BOOK" PLAN

Like the successful photographic record, *Look at the Ministry*, another picture book is being prepared by the Commission on the Ministry dealing with women's careers in the Church. It is to take up specific jobs such as the directorship of religious education, church social work, the task of the deaconess, etc. It will be ready this fall.

MONITORS ON CHURCH VOCATIONS

Reaching out into several hundred state teachers' colleges, the Commission on the Ministry is seeking this fall the designation of one faculty member who will serve as a "scout" for students who may well consider a life work within the church. It happens often, the Commission has pointed out, that no one in many a campus situation is equipped with material or a sense of responsibility for undertaking this job. In its new program the Commission cooperates with the Student Volunteer Movement, which is also inaugurating a new plan involving campus groups of committed students. It is planned that in many cases the "Monitor on Church Vocations" at a college will sponsor or otherwise foster such groups of potential candidates.

More Cities Adopt United Canvass Plan

DURING THE FALL campaign period—November 16 to December 7— a total of 37 new communities were added to the list of those participating in United Church Canvass, according to a report from the Rev. Earle B. Pleasant, National Director. The churches in more than 300 communities are now taking advantage of the U. C. C. plan for cooperative stewardship, and some 400 new prospect cities have expressed interest in holding a united canvass in the future.

In emphasizing the point that United Church Canvass does something for every denomination and for every church that can be done in no other way, Mr. Pleasant quoted this comment from Clinton, Mass.: "We noticed an increase in missionary pledging this year in six of the seven churches, and that without a special appeal."

For the fall campaign period this year more than twice as much promotional material was used by canvass cities as ever before. In addition to the usual poster and specially prepared material for newspaper use, the national office this year prepared a Work Kit by means of which 60 thousand pieces of literature were distributed; a "how to do it" film strip entitled "The United Church Canvass in Our Town, USA;" a radio recording with 12 "go to church" spot announcements made by such stars as Raymond Massey, Mary Margaret McBride, Kate Smith and Red Barber. The recording was used this fall in 100 cities, and in addition U. C. C. announcements were heard over 62 network programs, including Kraft Music Hall, Mr. District Attorney, Harvest of Stars, the Voice of Firestone, Dr. I.Q., and 15 different "soap operas."

Based on this encouraging report for the first nine months since the National Planning Committee of U. C. C. expanded its program with the calling of a full-time director, Mr. Pleasant predicts: "Through the United Church Canvass approach there is an open door of opportunity for making much more effective the programs of our churches." Following are some of the things which Mr. Pleasant says U. C. C. can do for every church that can be done in no other way:

Brings before the entire public the

true importance of religion and reminds everyone to attend church; helps every local church to raise its entire budget during the campaign period; makes it possible for some churches to raise their benevolences and local expenses *in full for the first time* in their history; through radio and press it reaches non-church goers; repetition of U. C. C. announcements helps people outside regular church channels to see its importance and to become sympathetic, thus improving the climate in which the church operates and making easier the promotion and evangelism jobs of each of our denominations.

Plans are already under way for a spring campaign to take place from February 15 to March 7, 1948. Any community desiring information about the United Church Canvass plan should write the national office at 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Detroit Holds Monthly Laymen's Luncheons

A series of monthly laymen's luncheons to which 50 leading laymen of the participating churches are invited each month, is one of the high points of the program of the Detroit Council of Churches for the coming months. The Rev. G. Merrill Lenox, executive secretary of the Council, said that brief messages by laymen and pastors, are scheduled for the luncheons to acquaint the guests with the work of the Council.

Each week 35 or 40 ministers meet for social service seminars held at the headquarters of some local social agency. At each meeting one of the important aspects of the host agency's program is thoroughly explained to the ministers. The Social Service Department is also planning marriage instruction classes to be held in several communities. A thousand youth are expected for the experimental stage of the program, with an increasing number to follow when the schedule is under way.

N. Y. Youth Raise Funds for Relief

The Metropolitan Christian Youth Council of New York City has announced plans to launch a drive to collect funds to buy 4 million cups of milk for undernourished children abroad. The project will be sponsored by the relief and reconstruction committee of the youth council in cooperation with Church World Service, and the funds received will be used to buy powdered milk in bulk for shipment overseas, where it will be distributed through church relief agencies.

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"I know, also, that my money will be used in a good cause to strengthen the spiritual life of people right here in America. Good religion means good character and that's what I want for the people of my country. So, all in all, I'm mighty pleased to take out this annuity with the Board of National Missions."

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Radio Programs—

January

SUNDAYS: Dr. Ralph W. Sockman, "National Radio Pulpit"—NBC—10-10:30 A. M. Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, "National Vespers"—ABC—2:00-2:30 P. M.; Dr. Robert J. McCracken, "Radio Chapel"—WOR only—9:30-10:00 A. M.

MONDAYS: Dr. Winfield Burggraaff, "Gems for Thought"—ABC—8:45-8:50 A. M. and 11:30-11:35 P. M.; Dr. Franklin Cole, "Faith in Our Time"—Mutual—10:15-10:30 A. M.

TUESDAYS: Dr. Wendell Phillips, "Gems for Thought"—ABC—8:45-8:50 A. M. and 11:30-11:35 P. M.; Dr. Francis C. Stifler, "Faith in Our Time"—Mutual—10:15-10:30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS: Dr. Allen E. Claxton, "Gems for Thought"—ABC—8:45-8:50 A. M. and 11:30-11:35 P. M.; Dr. L. Wendell Fifield, "Faith in Our Time"—Mutual—10:15-10:30 A. M.

THURSDAYS: Rev. Samuel Shoemaker, "Gems for Thought" ABC—8:45-8:50 A. M. and 11:30-11:35 P. M.

FRIDAYS: Dr. Arthur Henry Limouze, "Gems for Thought"—ABC—8:45-8:50 A. M. and 11:30-11:35 P. M.

SATURDAYS: Dr. Walter W. Van Kirk, "Religion in the News"—NBC—6:15-6:30 P. M.

EVERY DAY: "Minute of Prayer" 6:00 A. M. WOR—New York only.

(All times given are Eastern Standard Time)

For February, network programs will be the same as for January, except as follows: Dr. John Sutherland Bonnell will replace Bishop Oxnam on "National Vespers"; On Monday Dr. Robert J. McCracken will replace Dr. Franklin Cole on "Faith in Our Time"; The same program on Tuesday will be conducted by Dr. J. Richard Sneed in place of Dr. Francis C. Stifler; On Wednesday Rev. Arthur A. Rounier will conduct "Faith in Our Time" in place of Dr. L. Wendell Fifield.

Migrant Aid Appeal Supported by Actor

Mr. Raymond Massey, well-known stage and screen actor, has given his support to a nationwide appeal for aid to agricultural migrants, it has been announced by the Home Missions Council of North America. The Council, representing 23 Protestant denominations, has been working for the past twenty years to improve the social and economic conditions of agricultural migrants.

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Calling attention to the disintegration of the federal program of assistance to migrants, Mr. Massey emphasized the "tremendous need" for an expanded program of the Home Missions Council "to combat the mounting wave of desperation, disinheritance and misery."

Under the federal program, clean camps with decent sanitation facilities were built, medical aid was provided and attempts were made to safeguard the rights of agricultural migrants as American citizens, Mr. Massey explained. Now, due to the lack of Congressional appropriations, these services will be terminated, he added, and the migrants will once more be at the mercy of crew leaders and farmers.

Toledo Council Uses Symbol of New Design

Using the theme, "Strength Through Unity," the Toledo Council of Churches has devised this new insignia which is now being used on the Council letterheads and printed material.

The symbol, the result of several proposed ideas and months of consideration, combines the cross of sacrifice with the entwined ribbon bearing



the slogan of co-operation and the double circle, token of God and unity.

Rev. C. Clark Shedd, executive secretary of the Council, explained that the phrase "Strength Through

Unity" comes from the familiar story of the chieftain who, after hearing each tribal leader propose a different plan to defeat the enemy, picked up a bunch of fagots, and handed one to each man, ordering him to break it. Each man broke his stick with ease. He then took an equal number of sticks, tied them together, and ordered the men to break them. Not even the strongest could do it, and the old chieftain proved his point that through unity was success.

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AMONG THE NEW BOOKS

Recent Books on The Psychology of Religion

ON BEING FIT TO LIVE WITH, by Harry Emerson Fosdick, Harper, 1946, \$2.00.

WHY WE ACT THAT WAY, by John Homer Miller, Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1946, \$1.75.

THE REALM OF PERSONALITY, by D. M. Allan, Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1947, \$2.50.

NERVOUS DISORDERS AND CHARACTER, by J. G. McKenzie, Harper, 1947, \$2.50.

THE REDISCOVERY OF MORALS, by Henry C. Link, Dutton, 1947, \$2.50.

CREATION CONTINUES, by Fritz Kunkel, Scribner, 1947, \$3.00.

"The world, with catastrophe awaiting failure, is crying for those qualities of life and character that make men and nations fit to live with," writes Dr. Fosdick in the volume of sermons completing his active ministry at the Riverside Church. As in all his writings, he is pastoral—concerned to help men see how they can become fit to live with, not spanking them for failures. His incomparable clarity, decisiveness through illustration, and understanding approach are well in evidence here.

Dr. Miller, of Hope Congregational Church, Springfield, attempts to bring the understanding of psychology to the aid of religion in finding "practical aids for happier living." While the writing is clear, of admirable simplicity, and replete with illustration, the psychological insight does not suggest acquaintance with deeper levels of human personality as are sensed so readily, for example, in Dr. Fosdick's

book. But the existence of a growing number of works like Dr. Miller's testifies to the ever-rising need for showing in the clearest possible way the relation which the gospel bears to actual situations and problems of life.

Dr. Allan's comprehensive and thoughtful volume is the James Sprunt Lectures at Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, for 1944. The author ranges over the whole field of "the realm of personality" with questions about the truth and validity of religion, in the light of psychology, primarily in his mind. He concludes that our valid knowledge strengthens rather than weakens our faith in the Christian doctrine of man. The writing, while not unclear, is abstract. Through the absence either of illustration or first-hand material, the book suggests the author as standing farther away from the struggles and realities he describes than is undoubtedly true in fact.

Dr. McKenzie's *Souls in the Making*, published nearly twenty years ago, was then perhaps the best general volume on pastoral psychology. This current book attempts something which is much needed—a thoughtful examination of the essential theories of neurotic difficulties which have emerged out of progressive psychoanalytic thinking, in the light of the additional insights of Christian theology and philosophy. Agreeing in large part with Karen Horney, Dr. McKenzie believes the essence of her theory is consistent with good Christian philosophy. In four short lectures his case is foreshortened; and if some of the connective tissue appears to be missing, one must nevertheless see the importance of the task attempted.

Dr. Link, whose clear style and simplicity unwarranted by the facts have won him many readers for his previous books, turns in *The Rediscovery of Morals* to a needed and worthy objective, morality in reference to race

and class conflict. For such statements as the following he can be heartily commended, "Laws and customs which condemn the Negro to an inferior status or which prevent him from making the most of his potentialities are definitely immoral." Concerning class conflicts he is not so helpful. He believes that "the class hatreds of our time have been incorporated in a body of laws and legal decisions which make the continued growth of class conflict inevitable." Further, "the modern doctrine of equality and the common man is essentially the defeatist ideology of the scapegoat. . . . Whether under the guise of Communism, Fascism, Socialism or the new Social Gospel, this is the ideology for creating class warfare." Dr. Link is concerned for the preservation of freedom, but he rather too readily identifies "the American creed" with the essence and bulwark of Christian morality.

In *Creation Continues*, a distinguished Christian psychiatrist turns his psychological insight and spiritual perception upon the Gospel of Matthew. "Religion and psychology," he says, "are concerned with the same thing: the evolution of consciousness. Watching the religious development of our time, nobody can say that this is the agony of a dying faith. It looks more like a new beginning. Christianity, it seems, is coming of age. It might prove to be the decisive factor in the future of mankind." So Dr. Kunkel turns to close study of the Gospel, with the conviction that psychological insight can help us understand what happens when Jesus confronted men as described by Matthew, and as he does today. The volume is then built up around a series of "meditations," meditative discussions, moving through the Gospel from the first to the last chapter. What Dr. Kunkel reveals is certainly full of meaning; how accurate it is historically the scholars must say. Typical of the author's helpful method is the meditation on "Golgotha Within," which includes, "We thought the Light was leading us straight into the Kingdom . . . But Jesus went to Jerusalem to be crucified. The only way to overcome darkness is to walk right into it." Dr. Kunkel's search for spiritual meaning is fruitful and original. His book deserves a wide reading.

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Addresses and Papers Of John R. Mott

SIX VOLUMES WITH INDEX, Association Press, New York.

From the First International Christian Student Conference at Mt. Hermon in the summer of 1886 down to the founding of the World Council of Churches these volumes contain the record of Christian cooperation through worldwide organization as seen by the man who more than any other under God was used to draw together the divided Christendom.

Its limitations are in one way its advantage for it presents an important segment of Christian history through the events and movements in which one person played a unique and important part. The limitations of this method are self-evident: the advantages are also plain, for in such a record there is a consistency and coherence impossible to get when other methods are followed and many individual contributions traced.

The first volume traces the growth and work of the Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions; the second deals with the World Student Christian Federation; the third and fourth with the Y.M.C.A.; the fifth with the International Missionary Council; and the sixth with selected papers and addresses. In this section appears the record of Dr. Mott's varied contacts with the World Council from the time of the Oxford Conference 1937 to the end of the following decade.

Curiously enough there is only incidental reference throughout to the Federal Council of Churches, of which for a biennium he was vice-president. But perhaps this is explained by the fact that he did not make addresses during that period in the same relationship to the Council's work as had been the case with respect to other bodies which he had served longer.

Despite the careful editing to which the material in these volumes has been subjected there is evident a certain amount of repetition and not all can be of equal interest or importance.

Few will have the leisure to read such a monumental work as a whole; but those particularly interested in any one of the main organizations with which Dr. Mott was connected will find an absorbingly interesting and highly informing record spread out for their instruction and enjoyment.

Only through such a collection of documents, addresses, and records can one come at any understanding of the amazing range of the life of the most travelled advocate of Christian unity the world has yet known. The inside covers of the books contain maps which indicate the many journeys which took him in the course of more than half a century of active service into virtually every nook and corner of the world; and on the pages of the record there are to be found many individual references to the political, diplomatic, financial, cultural, educational and religious leaders of almost two full generations.

The buildings for which Dr. Mott helped to raise funds girdle the earth; but far more significant are the personal reminders of his influence upon the minds and wills of his fellowmen in every part of the globe. When announcement was made last year of the award of the Nobel Peace prize to Dr. Mott, a certain Swedish leftist newspaper exploded with the question: "Who ever heard of this unknown American pastor (sic!)?"

A mere cursory glance through the indexes of the six big volumes of this series will show anyone why it happens to be true that aside from political figures like presidents or kings there is probably no man living whose name is so widely known throughout the earth to men and women of significance and influence.—HENRY SMITH LEIPER.

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Projected Visual Aids in the Church

By WILLIAM S. HOCKMAN, The Pilgrim Press, Boston, \$3.75.

Pictures are a powerful instrument for conveying religious truth. The helpfulness of this book is enhanced by the fact that throughout its pages the reader senses the fact that the author is sharing the wealth of his own experience as a Minister of Education in the utilization of this teaching medium. He deals with the day-to-day questions and issues which churchmen confront in making the use of pictures, both still and moving, significant in the whole range of the churches' ministry. He analyzes the strong and weak points in the various types of visual filmstrips, silent and sound films. Under the suggestion "Don't solo" he advises churches to explore all types of visual aids and suggests the type of "Utilization Manual" needed which would give the user "the content of the film, its score and the angle or point of view imbedded in it." "Don't spend all your money on equipment and have nothing for the rental and the purchase of materials" is illustrative of some of the valuable "Do's and Don'ts" which Boards of Christian Education should understand.

"The orientation of the class or group to the teaching purpose envisaged for the particular visual aids material being used," the author says, "is imperative in order to bring pupil expectancy into harmony with the purpose of the teacher in using such material. Criteria for visual materials, their evaluation and rating, are considered. The last chapter presents five sample programs of worship and teaching through visual aids, which the author has developed and used in the educational work of the church.

The publication of this book is

timely, corresponding as it does with the awakening interest which ministers and directors of religious education have shown in this field. Such leaders and their teacher colleagues will find "Projected Visual Aids in the Church" a helpful guide as they move forward along the "Visual Aids" road of the future.—J.Q.M.

dom so happily presented. Obviously, it will be a good book for ministers and teachers to have on hand to loan to those who may need it. And even for the young man approaching marriage, this book will richly repay his reading.—L.F.W.

How to Make the Most of Wife

By MARGERY WILSON, Lippincott, 1947, 220 p., \$2.75.

With gayety and grace, coupled with subtle and deep understanding, Margery Wilson has written a book which no man can neglect without loss. For the happily married man it will often express things which he has known and experienced, and will also give him new vistas of understanding of the fine art of marriage. For men less happily married the book ought to be a lifesaver and a means of helping many to find what they hoped marriage would bring.

It is not a book of devices, although many a bit of effective technique is offered. Essentially, it is a book of insights, the chief one being that if we invest love resourcefully in marriage it will bring us the richest returns of life. She holds that loyalty is not a grim necessity merely, but a natural attitude of those who want a marriage that is worth having every day and worth cherishing through life.

With no fear of being thought sentimental, and with genuine realism, she says, "A woman who is loved is her fullest self. She blossoms and glows and beams like a light in alabaster. . . . Love your wife if you want her at her best. Love your wife to be at your best yourself. And try to love with gaiety and color."

Some other books are as wise as this but rarely is a book presented which has such pleasing gifts of wis-

The Liquor Cult and Its Culture

By HARRY S. WARNER, Columbus, The Intercollegiate Association for the Study of the Alcohol Problem, 1946, price not stated.

The author of this new volume on alcohol has been for many years one of the most helpful writers on the ethical aspects of alcohol, addressing himself chiefly as here to college students or other persons of some intellectual competence. The current volume is perhaps the most useful of all Dr. Warner's writings because of its accord with the facts thus far disclosed by science and its clear but objective view of the ethics of the question.

The author's main point is that "over and over again comes the evidence that the acquiring of alcoholic desires is of social origin"—that the first drinking is in response to social pressures, and later one discovers that alcohol temporarily helps to blot out

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An interpretation of recent European theology

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fear and anxiety. Only by recognition of this "culture" is it possible for people to look squarely at the facts, and make a decision in accord with them.

The book is full of relevant quotations from the scientific literature. Both individual facts and the general weighing of facts would appear to be in accord with scientific findings. The author makes no apology for his strong stand on the question, but does not prevent this from permitting him to take an objective tone toward the facts. This book may be recommended to any persons or groups willing to work their way through such terms as "alcoholic culture."

—SEWARD HILTNER

The Soul of Frederick W. Robertson

By JAMES R. BLACKWOOD. Harper, 1947, \$2.00.

This volume recreates a whole nineteenth-century atmosphere of church and prayer and intellect. Robertson of Brighton (1816-1853) had a preaching ministry of just six years, but his ringing message and the power of his dedicated life have become

historic. The author, Presbyterian minister son of a Princeton Seminary professor, writes with evident warmth and almost uncritical admiration, but gives a moving story of inner and outer experience of the great man, his friendships, sensitiveness, frustration, and triumphant personal devotion. "To try to fix attention on Christ rather than on the doctrines of Christ" was one of Robertson's "resolves" which by this account explains much of the nobility and creativeness of his preaching. The book presents enough pungent quotation and enough intimate biography of a realistic minister to be helpful to many a Christian today.—J.O.N.

This Love of Ours

By LESLIE R. SMITH. Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, 1947, \$1.00.

The minister of the Central Christian Church, Lexington, Kentucky, has written a little book for young men and women entering marriage. In twenty-four brief and pithy chapters, with good quotations generously sprinkled in, he presents some of the lessons which have been learned by those who have had long and happy

experience in married life.

Sensible advice is offered as to the use of money, relationships of both mates with their in-laws, understanding of the sexual part of marriage, the need of recreational life together apart and the important place of religion in the home.

The book is well suited to do what the author says he hopes to do, namely "to guide the newly married to build a mutual, intelligent and loving relationship against which nothing will ever prevail."—LELAND FOSTER WOOD

New Publications

The Church Has Responsibility in Economic Life. By Rt. Rev. Angus Dun. This is the address with which the National Study Conference on the Church and Economic Life, held last February in Pittsburgh, opened. 15 cents each. Discounts for quantity orders.

Pronouncements on Religion and Economic Life. Excerpts from Statements by Religious Bodies and Leaders. This is an up to date compilation of statements drawn from ecumenical bodies, the Federal Council of Churches, the denominations, and from Roman Catholic and Jewish sources. There is a topical index. 15 cents each. Discounts for quantity orders.

Copies of the above publications may be obtained from the Federal Council of Churches, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

BREAK UP THE NIGHT!

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There is a radiant Christian faith, a personal fellowship with his fellow men, and an evangelical warmth about Dr. Alston himself, and these qualities he successfully transmits to his writings. He is a consistently orderly workman, and his sermon structure shows his scholarship. The reader progresses as he reads, moving from one thought to the adjacent one until a developing idea emerges that is strangely applicable to his own needs. Here is no "taking a text, and departing therefrom," but rather a development of a text to a definite conclusion.

This is not just a volume of sermons for the minister to read and perhaps imitate. It is the virile preaching of a minister of God in today's world, as he seeks to help every individual find his way to God's intended purposes for his life. This is pointed, helpful thinking through of one's attitudes and conduct before God in a world of many conflicts and unchristian practices.

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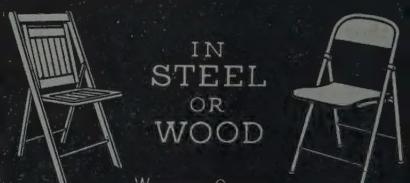
This attractive 40-page gift booklet is a series of fifteen days' devotionals for the newly married. It contains a marriage certificate, and the minister presenting the booklet has an ideal opportunity to urge the establishment of the family altar on the day when the two are married. The book, 5 x 7½ inches, has a two-color cover with silk cord marker, is of Polaris French-fold paper, saddle-stitched, and a mailing envelope is provided.

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New Church Council formed in Camden

About 300 Protestant churches have joined in formation of a Council of Churches of Greater Camden, (N. J.). A preamble to the council's constitution sets forth that "the Church of Christ is confronted by unprecedented need and opportunity" in the world of today, and that "the magnitude and urgency of the task before the Church are too great to be met by a divided body." The call to service emphasizes "fellowship and unity of action in this hour."

Five departments will be organized to carry out the new federation's program. They include Christian education and stewardship, cooperation in evangelism and church extension, utilization of the press and radio, better family and community relationships, and better inter-faith and inter-race relationships.

Cooperation is now possible with the Council of Churches in Philadelphia, directly across the Delaware River, with the result that the entire metropolitan area of the nation's third largest population center is completely organized for interdenominational unity of purpose and action.

AHN TO BE RADIO DIRECTOR

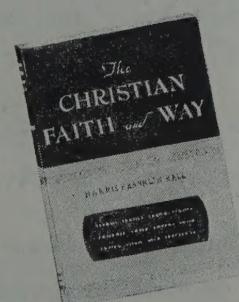
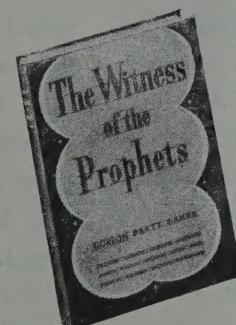
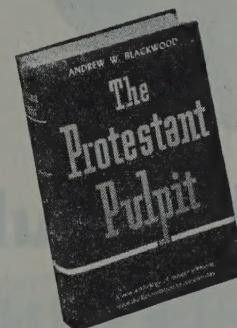
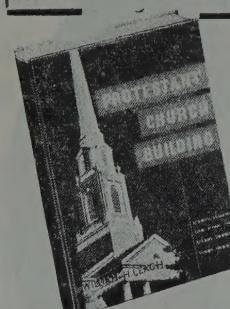
Appointment of George B. Ahn, Jr. as director of audio-visual methods and director of radio for the Pennsylvania State Council of Christian Education was announced by Rev. Ivan M. Gould, D.D., general secretary, from the Harrisburg headquarters of the Council.

For the past year Mr. Ahn has been director of public relations for the Pennsylvania State Council of Christian Education and the Pennsylvania Council of Churches, serving as editor of the official publication of each Council, handling publicity and promotion and directing the radio activities of both Councils.

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